

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BUENOS 07500 111942Z

63

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FMC-04

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02 DLOS-06 LAB-06

SIL-01 DOTE-00 L-03 DRC-01 /062 W

----- 078039

R 111845Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3911

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 7500

CARACAS FOR REGIONAL MARITIME ATTACHE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, ETRN, AR

SUBJ: MARITIME AFFAIRS - INTRODUCTION OF LASH SERVICE

REF: A. BA 7446; B. BA 7396

1. SUMMARY: GOA ENTITIES AND OFFICIAL S FROM FONMIN, UNDER SECRETARIAT FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS AND MIN OF LABOR HAVE EFFECTIVELY ASSISTED DELTA LINES (DL) AND MARITIME WORKERS UNION IN REACHING WHAT HOPEFULLY WILL BE A SEMI-PERMANENT AGREEMENT PROVIDING A BASIS FOR FUTURE OPERATIONS OF LASH VESSELS TO BUENOS AIRES. AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR SOME RESTRICTION ON DL USE OF LIGHTERS, WHICH, WHILE NOT ONEROUS TO DL AT THIS STAGE, PROVIDES A FACE SAVING FORMULA ALLOWING UNION TO POINT TOWARD GAINS THAT ARE POLITICALLY IMPORTANT IN NATIONALISTIC ATMOSPHERE PRESENTLY PREVAILING IN ARGENTINA. ON BASIS THIS AGREEMENT THIRD LASH VESSEL BEING OPERATED SATISFACTORILY AND DL ANTICIPATES SUBSEQUENT VISITS OF LASH VESSELS SHOULD PROCEED SMOOTHLY. EMBASSY HAS NO INFORMATION INDICATING THIS ASSESSMENT NOT REALISTIC. END SUMMARY.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BUENOS 07500 111942Z

2. IN MARATHON SESSION INVOLVING GOA OFFICIALS, LABOR UNION

LEADERS AND DL REP WHICH RAN FOR OVER 10 HOURS ON OCT 9,
AGREEMENT REACHED ON FOLLOWING POINTS:

- A. DL AGREES TO CARRY IN LASH VESSEL APPROPRIATE LIGHTERS OWNED BY ARGENTINE FIRMS AND TO MAKE DL LIGHTERS AVAILABLE TO ARGENTINE FIRMS BY AGREEMENT AND AFTER AUTHORIZATION BY APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES.
- B. DL AGREES NOT TO OPERATE SELF PROPELLED LIGHTERS IN ARGENTINE WATERS.
- C. LASH VESSEL LIGHTERS MAY NOT OPERATE IN ARGENTINE RIVERS EXCEPT FOR NECESSARY MOVEMENT FROM PORT TO LASH VESSEL AND VICE VERSA.
- D. LASH VESSEL OPERATIONS WILL BE LIMITED TO THE PORT OF BUENOS AIRES AND THEIR OUTER END OF PORT CHANNEL. THIS INCLUDES AND PERMITS ENTRY OF LASH VESSEL INTO BA PORT.
- E. DL AGREES TO ENGAGE ARGENTINE FIRMS TO MOVE CARGOES FROM LIGHTERS TO UPRIVER PORTS WHEN THIS IS NECESSARY.
- F. DL AGREES TO USE ONLY TUGS BELONGING TO ARGENTINE FIRMS.
- G. UNTIL ARGENTINA HAS LASH TYPE VESSELS, DL AGREES TO ABIDE BY ITS SHIPPING AGREEMENT WITH ELMA.
- H. ALL COMMITMENTS UNDERTAKEN IN PREVIOUS POINTS WILL APPLY EXCLUSIVELY TO LASH VESSELS AND LIGHTERS BELONGING TO DL AND WILL NOT APPLY TO OTHER SHIPPING FIRMS UNLESS AND UNTIL THEY HAVE ACCEPTED COMMITMENTS AT LEAST EQUAL TO THOSE ESTABLISHED HEREIN.
- I. AGREEMENT WILL BE EFFECTIVE AS FROM OCT 9, 1973.
- J. UNDER SECRETARY FOR MERCHANT MARINE AGREES TO ANNUL HIS RESOLUTIONS 671 AND 706 OF SEPT 19 AND OCT 5 RESPECTIVELY. ON ABOVE BASIS LABOR UNION LEADERS AND UNDERSECRETARY MERCHANT MARINE DECLARE THAT TERMS OF THIS AGREEMENT CONSTITUTE BASIC PRINCIPLES TO GOVERN ALL FUTURE OPERATIONS ON THIS MATTER.

3. DL VIEWS RESTRICTION ON USE OF BARGES TO UPRIVER PORTS AS NECESSARY CONCESSION AT THIS TIME TO SECURE GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH GOA AUTHORITIES AND UNIONS INVOLVED. IN ANY CASE DL HAS HAD NO PLANS FOR IMPLEMENTING CAPABILITY OF LASH BARGES TO TAKE CARGOES DIRECTLY FROM MOUTH OF RIVER PLATE TO UPRIVER PORTS, NORMALLY USED FOR OCEAN SHIPPING. WE BELIEVE THIS WAS WISE MOV
E
ON PART OF DL BECAUSE AS LASH VESSEL OPERATIONS BECOME ROUTINE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BUENOS 07500 111942Z

AND MARITIME UNIONS SEE THAT THEIR INTERESTS ARE NOT DAMAGED, CHANCES WILL IMPROVE TO SECURE PERMISSION FOR LASH LIGHTER SERVICE UPRIVER WITH ARGENTINE PUSH TUGS. DL HAS ALREADY EXPLORED THIS IDEA WITH OTHER INTERESTED SECTORS SUCH AS ASSOCIATION OF RIVER BARGE OWNERS AND OPERATORS WITHOUT ENCOUNTERING OPPOSITION. TIME SHOULD BE ON THE SIDE OF DL.

4. IT IS POSSIBLE, THOUGH HARD TO CREDIT, THAT OPPOSITION OF

MARITIME WORKERS TO INTRODUCTION LASH SERVICE WAS BASED UPON FEARS THAT NEW SERVICE THREATENED SIGNIFICANT ARGENTINE INTERESTS. FORTUNATELY, PRESENT AGREEMENT WILL ALLOW UNION LEADERS TO CLAIM THAT THEY HAVE DEFENDED INTERESTS OF ARGENTINE WORKERS, FIRMS IN CABOTAGE TRADE UPRIVER AND ARGENTINAS PRINCIPAL SHIPPING LINE ELMA. THE AGREEMENT THEREFORE MAY BE USEFUL AND ASSIST IN INSURING SMOOTH OPERATIONS IN FUTURE.

5. AS MARITIME NEGOTIATING SESSION BEGAN OCT 9, EMBASSY REQUESTED UNDER SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN FONMIN, TETTAMANTI, TO USE HIS GOOD OFFICES IN GENERATING A RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM. WE HAVE HAD CONFIRMATION THAT HE TWICE CALLED THE MIN OF LABOR OFFICIALS INVOLVED, DURING THE SESSION, AND EFFECTIVELY PROMOTED THEIR EFFORTS TO DEVELOP A SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT GOODWILL WAS SHOWN THROUGHOUT THE DEVELOPMENT AND RESOLUTION OF THIS PROBLEM BY GOA OFFICIALS ALTHOUGH THEY FELT THEIR TASK WAS DOUBLY DIFFICULT BECAUSE IT INVOLVED FACING UP TO LABOR LEADERS IN A PERIOD OF SOME DELICACY IN DAYS PRECEDING INAUGURATION OF NEW GOVERNMENT.
LODGE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BUENOS07500
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BUENOS AIRES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731037/aaaabbdf.tel
Line Count: 135
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A.BA 7446, B.BA 7396
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15-Jan-2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <06-Feb-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MARITIME AFFAIRS - INTRODUCTION OF LASH SERVICE
TAGS: ELAB, ETRN, AR
To: SECSTATE WASHDC CARACAS MONTEVIDEO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005